

# Metal abundances survey of A-type Stars in Herschel DEBRIS

**Zachary Draper**

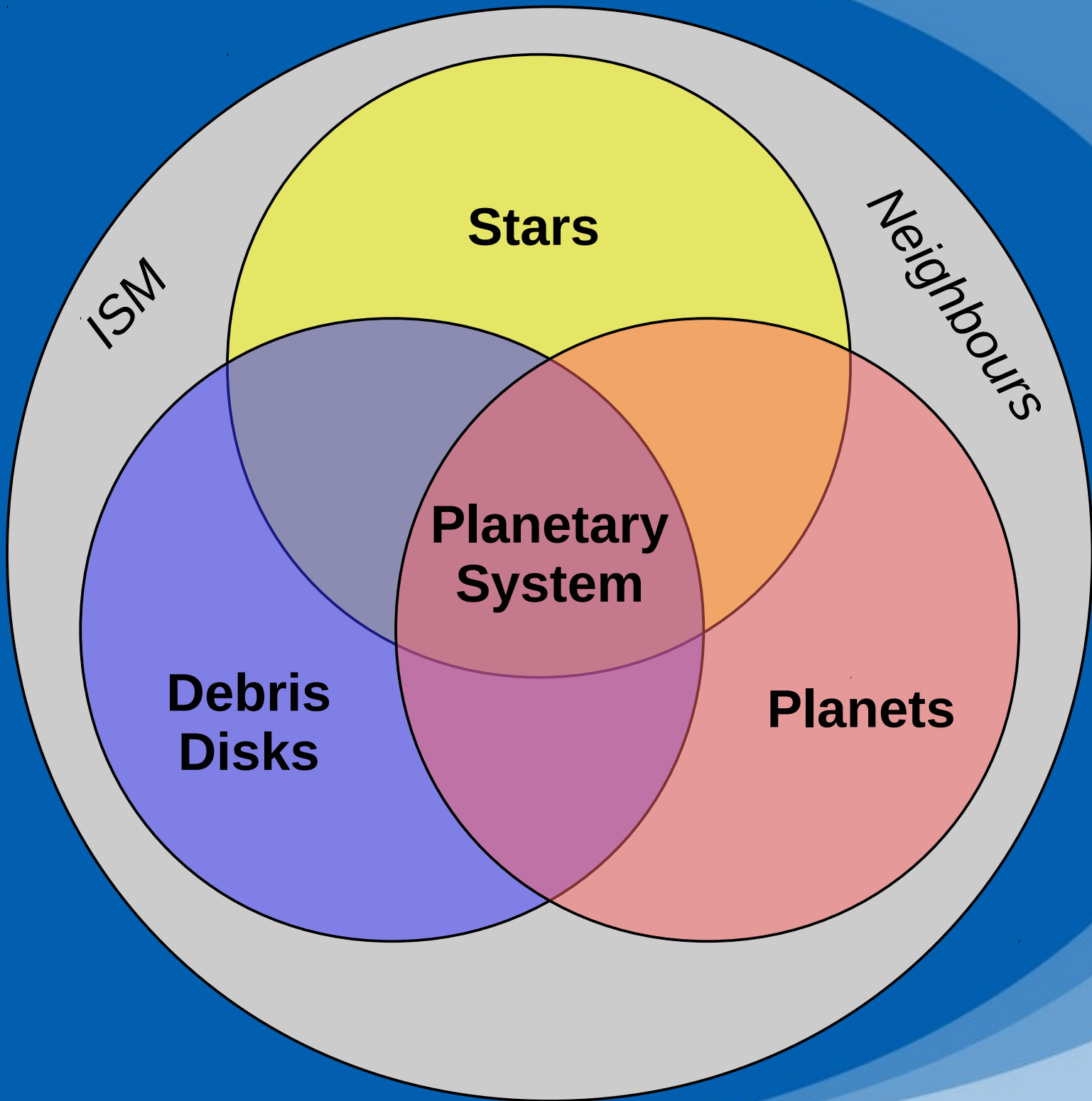
PhD Candidate



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**Stars**

*Neighbours*

*ISM*

**Planetary System**

**Debris Disks**

**Planets**

A-type?



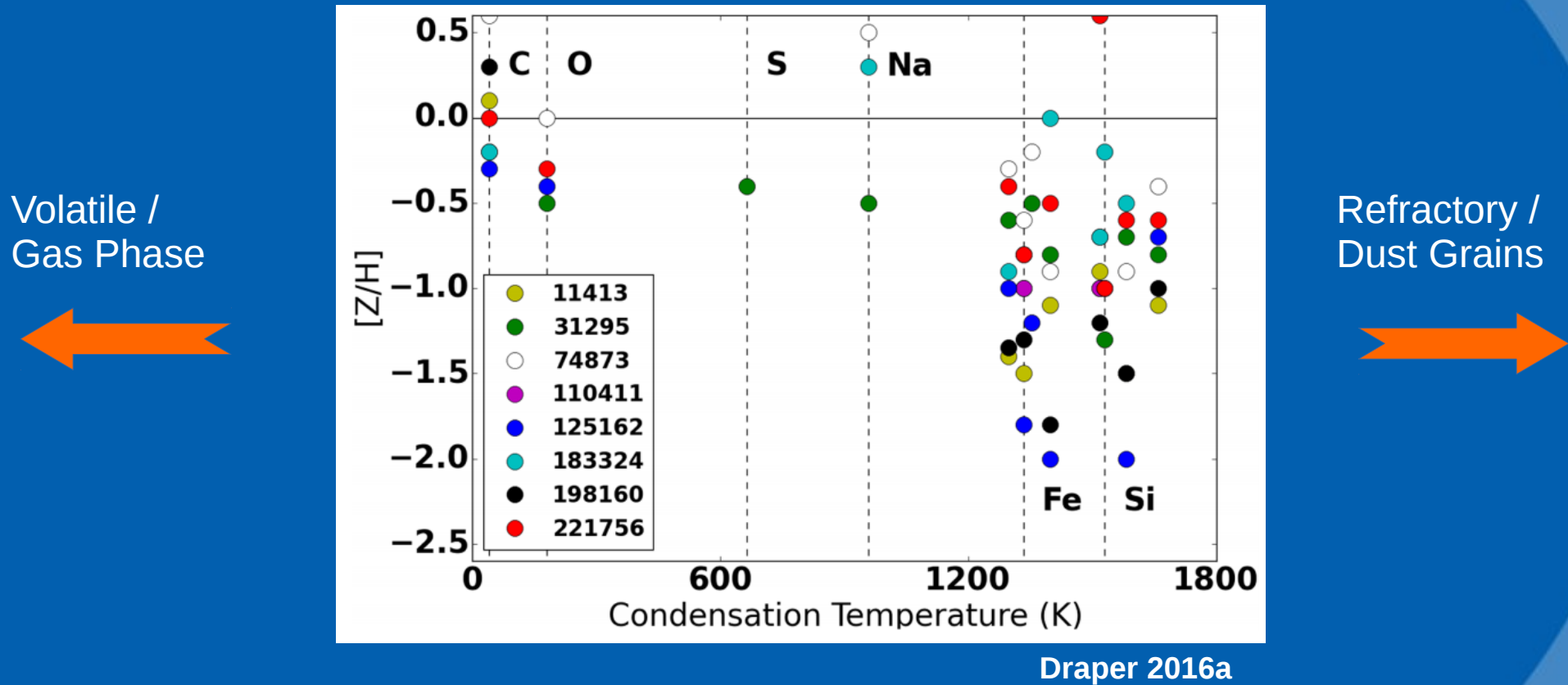
There be monsters!

# Reasons A-types are the worst:

- Very few metal lines to measure.
- NLTE effects can be significant.
- Balmer lines are strong and exceptionally broad.
- Rotational velocities: cause metal lines blend into lines of other species.
  - Sometimes high enough to blend lines into the continuum.
- Non-convective surface makes the surface abundances not representative of stellar metallicity.



# Lambda Boo Phenomenon

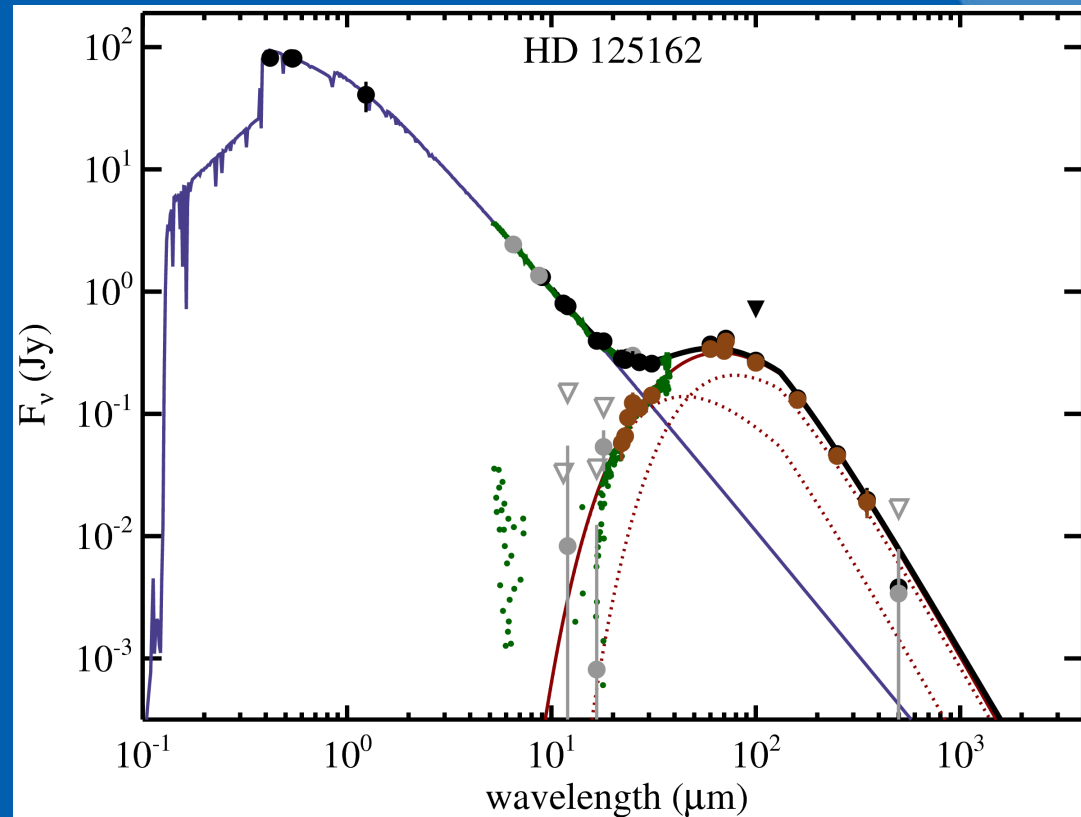


**Hypothesis:** Preferential accretion of volatile gas from surrounding environment, over refractory dust, due to radiation pressure.

# The Data

# DEBRIS

- About 90 A-type stars observed by *Herschel* at 100/160  $\mu\text{m}$
- Best sensitivity to cold dust
- Characterizes turnover in SED
- Better resolution compared to other IR spacecraft
- Volume-limited sample selection of nearby stars



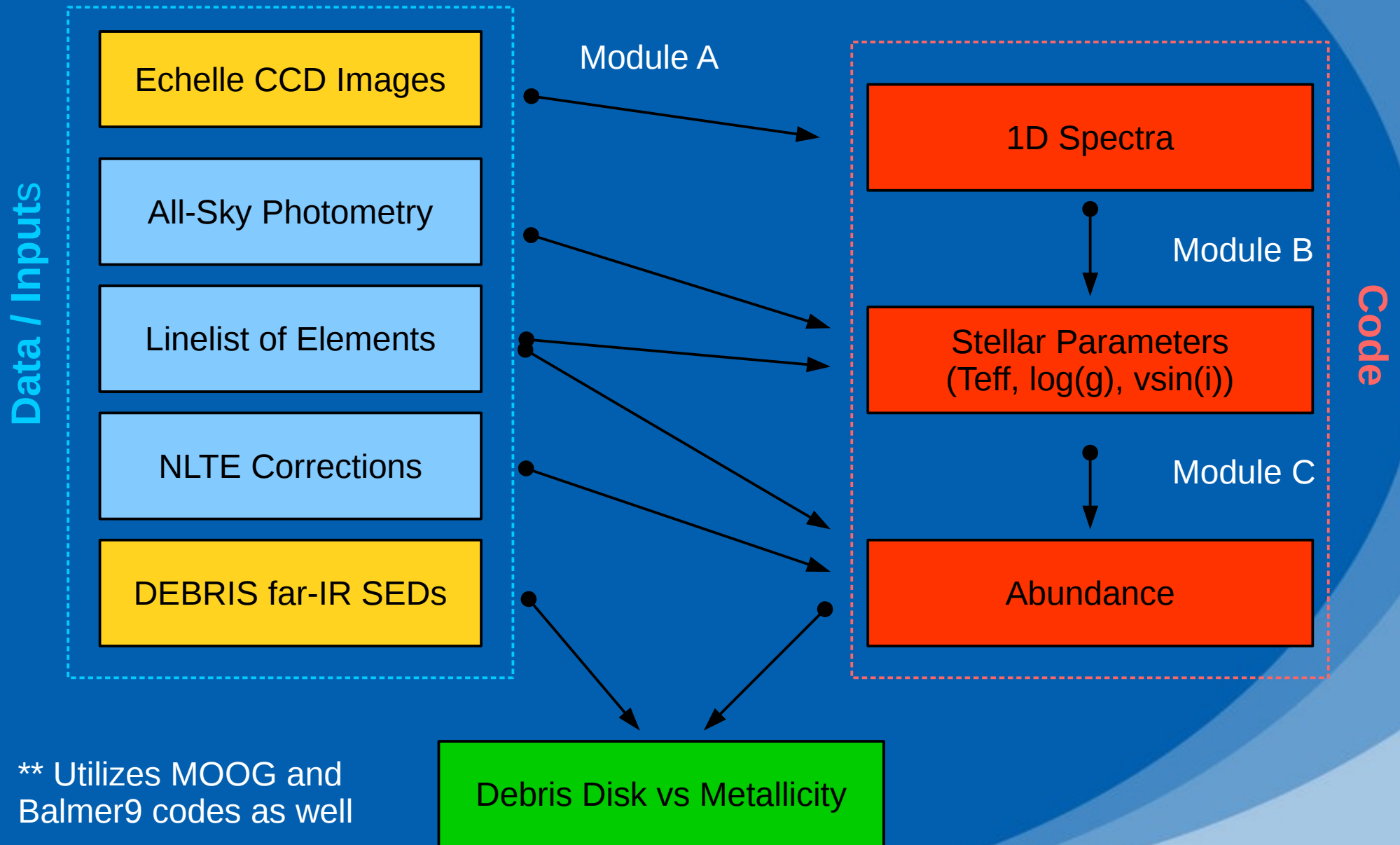
# Collected Spectra

- 83 stellar spectra collected.
- Northern hemisphere spectra observed from McDonald Observatory in 4 nights.
- Southern hemisphere from ESO archive.
  - Many spectra seemingly unpublished.
- Goal to obtain most of the visible spectrum at  $R \sim 60000$
- Species observed: Fe, Mg, C, O, Si, & Ti

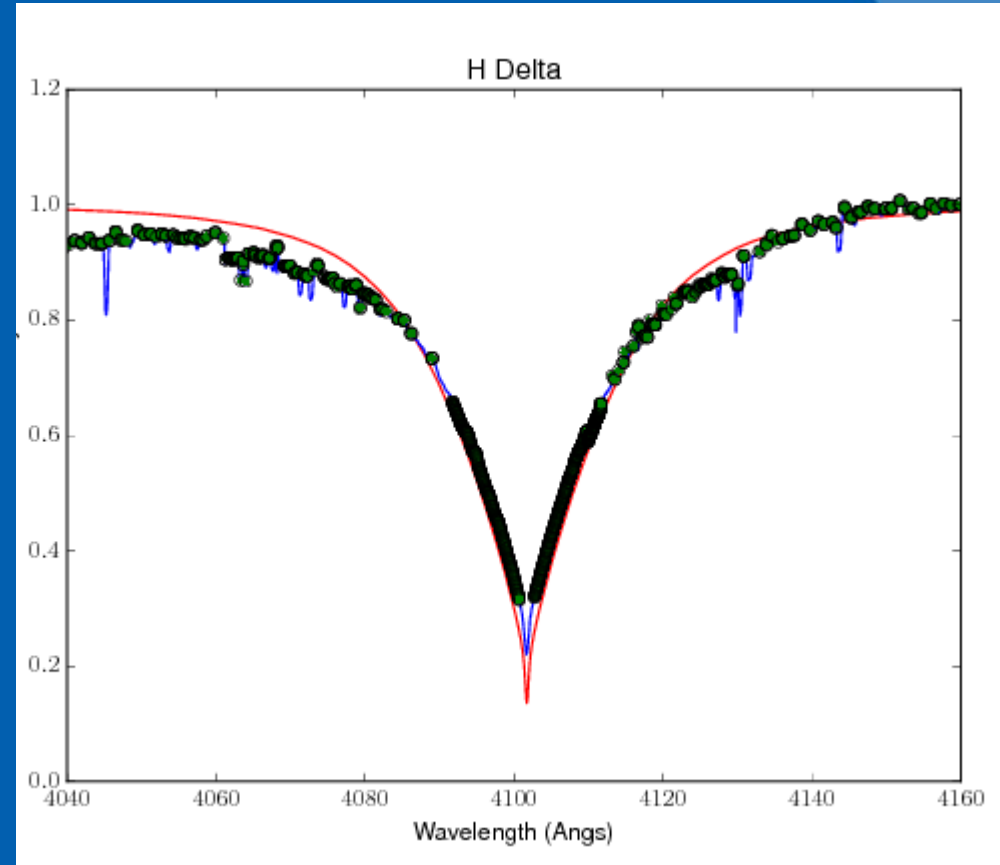
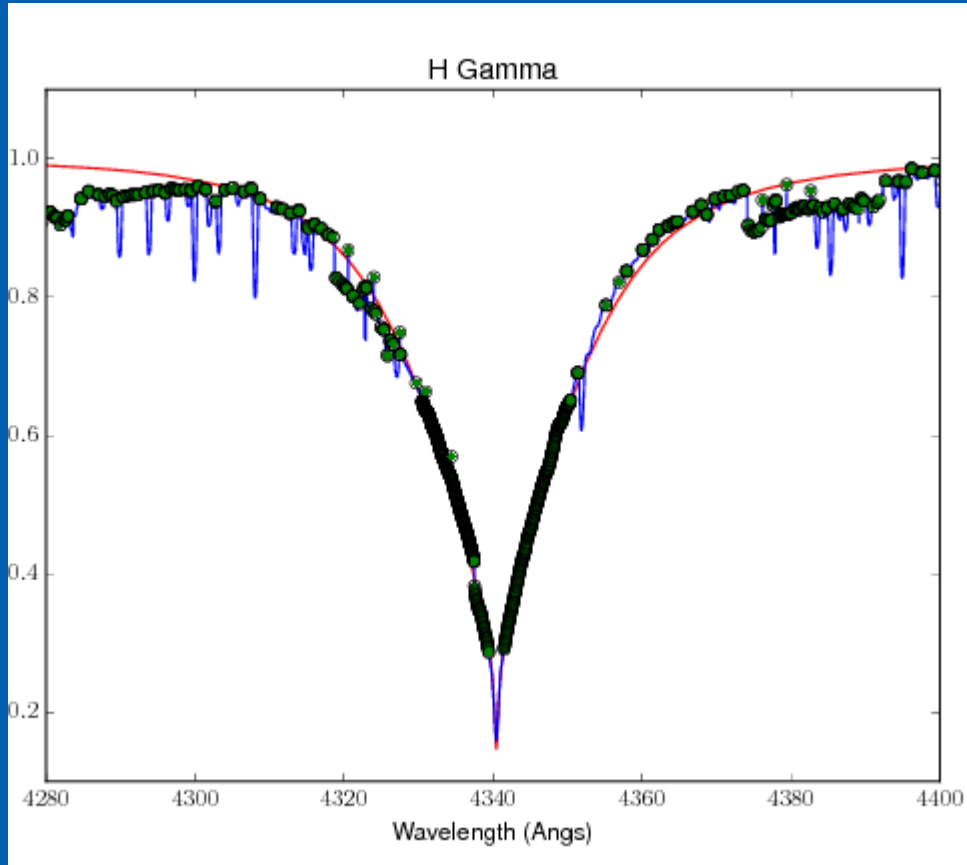


# Spectral Analysis

# Stellar Reduction Pipeline

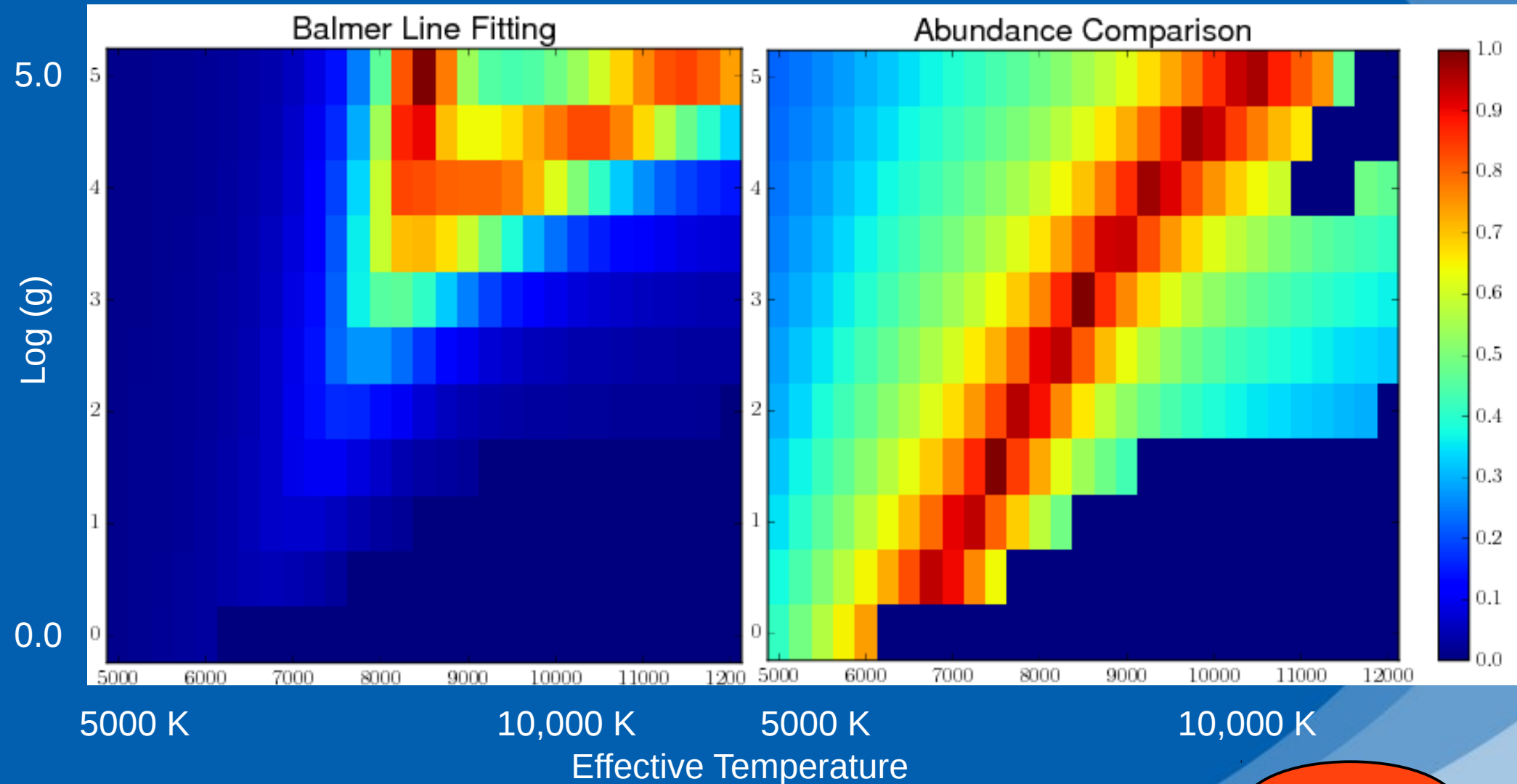


# Balmer Line Fits

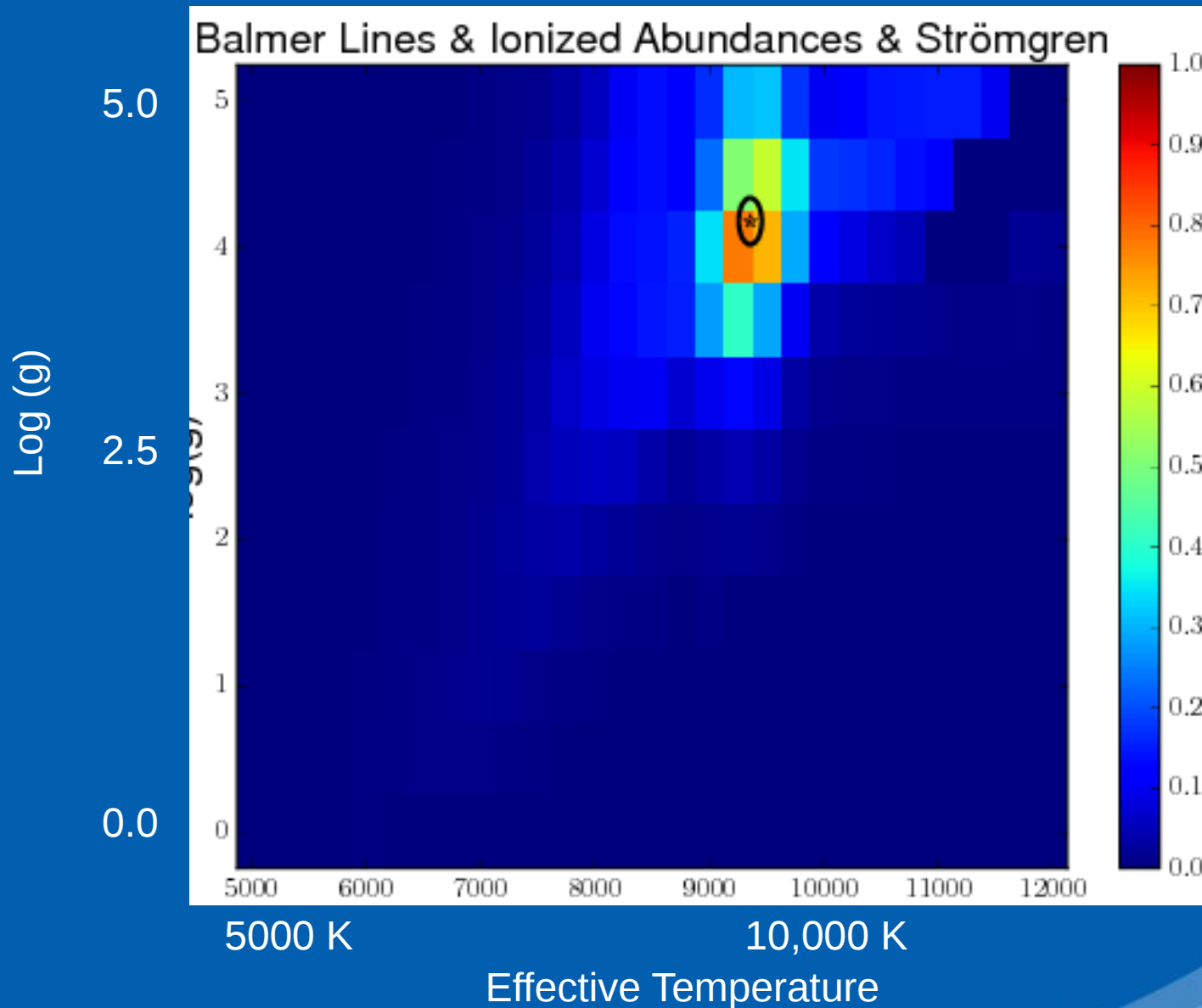


- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative to find continuum vs metal lines
- Cross-correlation to get residual RV shift

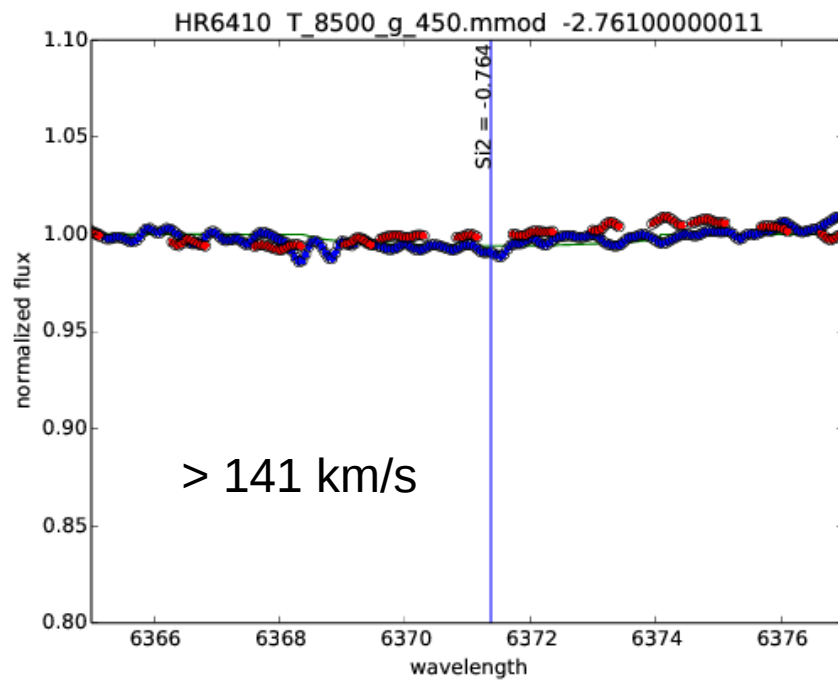
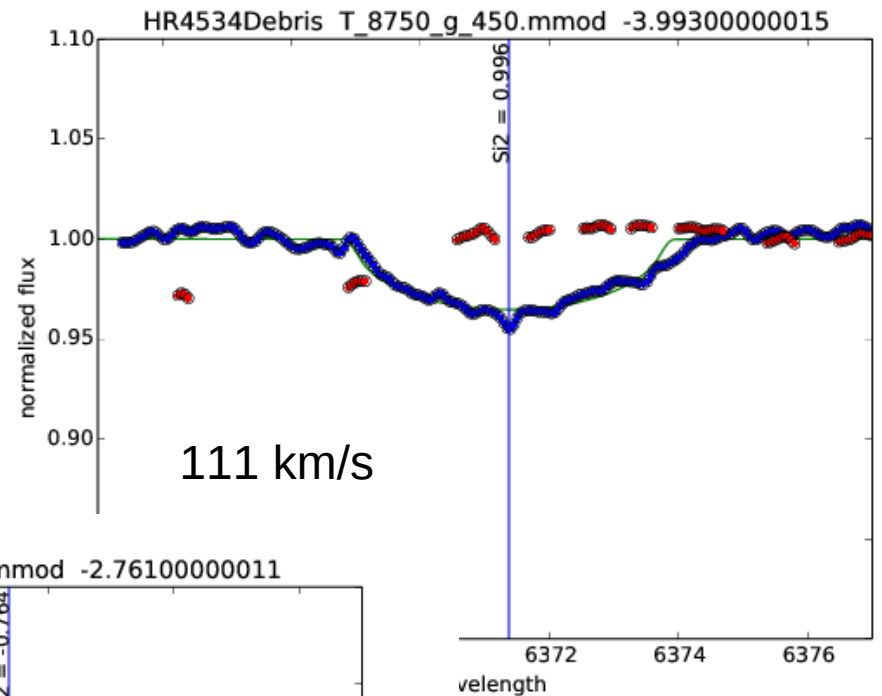
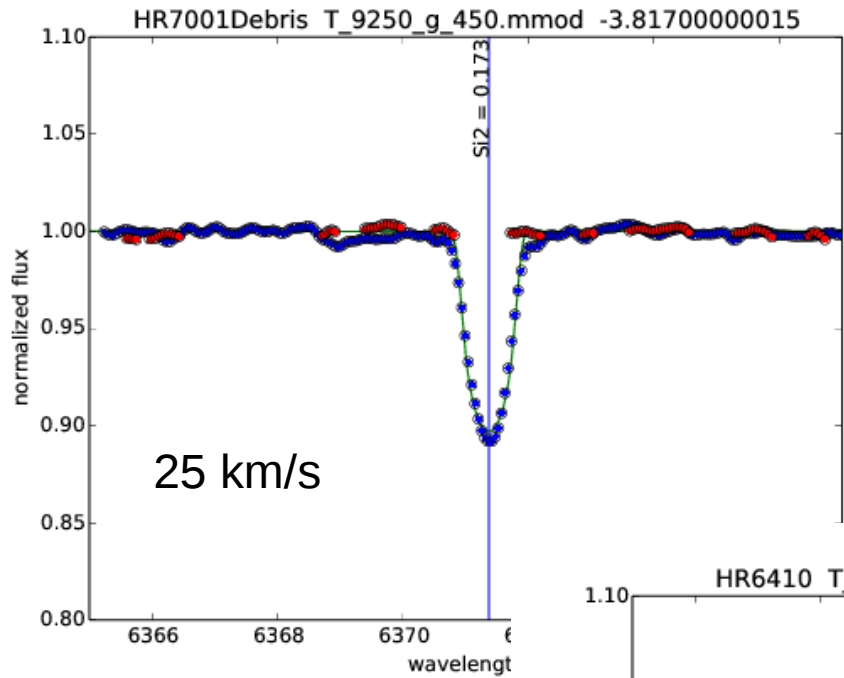
# Stellar Parameters



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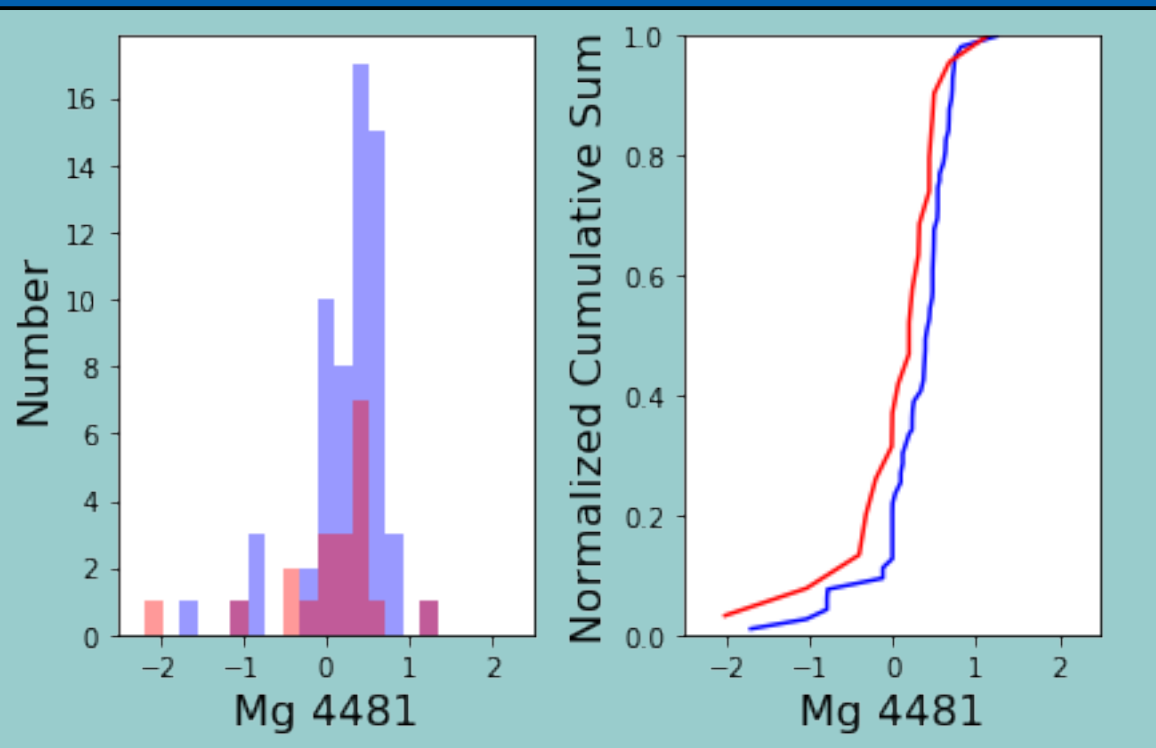


# Synthetic Spectrum Fitting



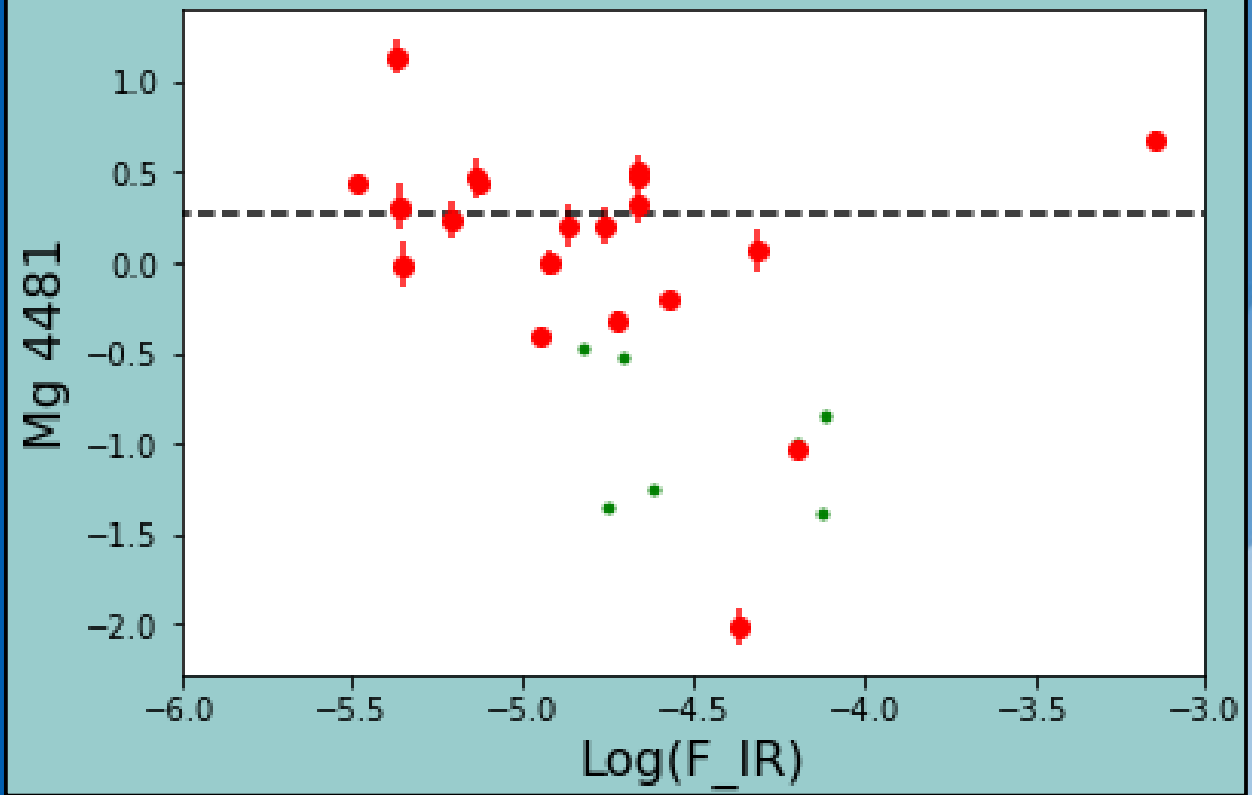


# Results



Statistically relevant separation in KS test between disk vs no-disk samples.

Decline in Mg 4481 with fractional luminosity?



# Importance?

**If** bright debris disks = refractory metal poor stars

**Then** validates Lambda Boo phenomenon as planet-disk interaction.

## **Knowns**

~25% of A stars have debris disks

~2% of A stars are Lambda Boo



~10% of A stars with debris disks undergoing recent planet-disk interaction.



Global measure of exoplanetary stability.

Questions?